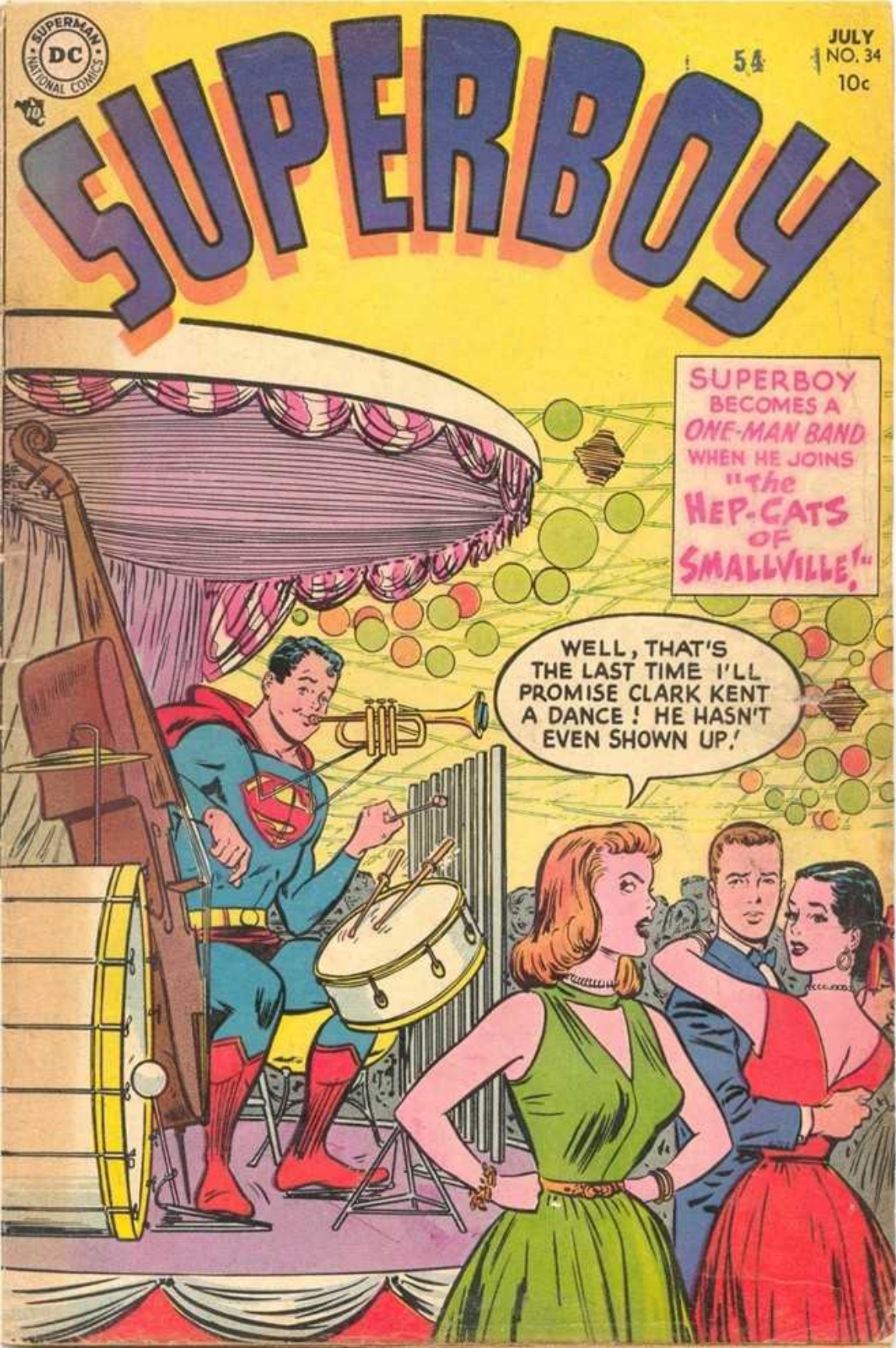

SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
SUPERBOY
54
JULY
NO. 34
10c
SUPERBOY BECOMES A ONE-MAN BAND WHEN HE JOINS "the HEP-CATS OF SMALLVILLE!"
WELL, THAT'S THE LAST TIME I'LL PROMISE CLARK KENT A DANCE! HE HASN'T EVEN SHOWN UP!

SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN
WHEN HE WAS A BOY
GREAT SCOTT! THEY'VE DEFIED THE CURSE OF THE ANCIENT PHAROAHS BY OPENING THAT BOX!
STAY AWAY, SUPERBOY! THERE ARE SOME FORCES EVEN YOU CAN'T OVERCOME!
FROM A TOMB IN ANCIENT EGYPT, IT CAME TO SMALLVILLE ACCOMPANIED BY TALES OF A DEADLY CURSE! AND BEFORE LONG, AS THE EVIL OBJECT STRUCK DOWN ONE VICTIM AFTER ANOTHER, EVEN SUPERBOY WAS FORCED TO CAST DOUBTS ASIDE AND WAGE A LIFE-OR-DEATH BATTLE TO SAVE LIVES DOOMED BY...
The JEWEL OF JEOPARDY!

SUPERBOY, No. 34, July, 1954 issue. Published monthly, with the exception of Feb., May, Aug., and Nov., by NATIONAL COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC., 480 LEXINGTON AVE., NEW YORK 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. REENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER OCT. 13, 1953 at the post office at New York, N. Y. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. $1.00 including postage. Foreign $2.00 in American funds. Entire contents copyrighted 1954 by National Comics Publications, Inc. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205 East 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y. Except for those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious, and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.

Printed in U.S.A.

ONE MORNING, AS SUPERBOY PATROLS SMALLVILLE...
GREAT SCOTT! THAT CRAZY DRIVER... WHY--IT'S LANA'S FATHER! I'VE NEVER KNOWN HIM TO BE SO CARELESS! HE'LL NEVER MAKE THAT CURVE... HE'S HEADED STRAIGHT FOR THE CLIFF!
SCREECH
SWIFTLY, THE BOY OF STEEL DARTS TO THE RESCUE...
MR. LANG-- YOU KNOW BETTER THAN TO DRIVE LIKE THIS! IF I HADN'T BEEN HERE...
YES, YES--- I KNOW, SUPERBOY... BUT I'M IN AN AWFUL HURRY TO GET TO AN AUCTION IN WHITE CITY!
SOON AFTER, OUTSIDE THE ERNST HOME, WHERE THE AUCTION TAKES PLACE...
THEY'RE AUCTIONING OFF AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN JEWEL BOX FROM THE COLLECTION OF MY LATE FRIEND AUGUST ERNST, AND I'D HATE TO HAVE IT FALL INTO ANYONE ELSE'S HANDS!
HMPH-- YOU COLLECTORS ARE ALL ALIKE! BUT I GUESS I CAN GET YOU THERE FASTER-- AND MORE SAFELY, TOO!
THANKS, SUPERBOY... YOU CAN PUT ME DOWN HERE!
THAT SUITS ME, SINCE CLARK KENT HAS A DATE WITH LANA-- AND IT WOULD BE HARD TO EXPLAIN HIS BEING LATE AFTER SUPERBOY HAD TO HELP HER FATHER!
THEN, AS MR. LANG HURRIES TOWARD THE HOUSE...
AH-- PROFESSOR JETHROW! I SEE YOU'VE ALREADY BOUGHT THE BOX! WELL, REMEMBER MY WARNING... YOU MUSTN'T OPEN IT!
YOU STILL BELIEVE THERE'S A CURSE ON THIS BOX? NONSENSE, LANG!
I WAS AFRAID I COULDN'T CONVINCE YOU IF YOU GOT HERE FIRST! THAT LEAVES ME NO OTHER COURSE-- BUT THIS! I'VE GOT TO-- FOR YOUR OWN GOOD!
OOF!
2

IN ALL CONSCIENCE, I CAN'T LET HIM KEEP THIS BOX, KNOWING WHAT I DO ABOUT IT FROM ANCIENT RECORDS! I'LL FIND OUT HOW MUCH IT COST HIM, AND RETURN HIS MONEY!
MEANWHILE, AT THE LANG HOME, WHERE SUPERBOY APPEARS IN HIS SECRET, EVERYDAY IDENTITY...
HELLO, CLARK! LANA'S WAITING FOR YOU IN HER FATHER'S STUDY! SHE WENT BACK THERE TO SEE IF SHE COULD FIND OUT WHY HE RUSHED OFF TO WHITE CITY THIS MORNING! HE WOULDN'T TELL US A THING!
HMM... MUST BE MORE TO THAT BOX LANG WAS AFTER THAN I THOUGHT!
PRESENTLY, IN MR. LANG'S STUDY--AN ISOLATED BUILDING BEHIND THE HOME...
... AND ALL I COULD FIND IN DAD'S NOTEBOOK ABOUT AUGUST ERNST IS THAT HE WAS A FAMOUS ARCHAEOLOGIST WITH WHOM DAD EXPLORED THE PYRAMIDS MANY YEARS AGO!
VERY INTERESTING, LANA -- BUT THAT HARDLY EXPLAINS HIS CONCERN ABOUT GETTING TO THE AUCTION!
OH, DEAR... THE CUCKOO CLOCK'S STRIKING 12! WE'LL HAVE TO HURRY TO MAKE THAT MOVIE YOU'RE TAKING ME TO!
LET'S GO THEN! WE CAN ASK YOUR FATHER ABOUT THAT BOX WHEN HE GETS BACK!
CUCKOO CUCKOO CUCKOO
AND LATER, WHEN LANA'S FATHER RETURNS...
NATURALLY, ANYONE WOULD THINK I'M A FOOL FOR BELIEVING IN THE CURSE THAT FALLS ON WHOEVER OPENS THIS JEWEL BOX FROM ANCIENT EGYPT. WHAT'S MORE, JETHROW'S SURE TO COME HERE AFTER IT--AND THE FIRST PLACE HE'LL LOOK IS IN THE SAFE...
...SO MAYBE I CAN FOOL HIM BY PUTTING IT ON THIS SHELF AND--OH, OH--I HEAR HIM COMING NOW! HE DIDN'T LOSE ANY TIME!
3

I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS GUN, LANG, BUT I DON'T INTEND TO LOSE THAT BOX! YOU AND YOUR NONSENSE ABOUT A CURSE! HAND IT OVER, I SAY!
NEVER! IT WOULD BE YOUR DEATH!
IN THAT CASE, I'LL FIND IT MYSELF -- EVEN IF I HAVE TO BLAST YOUR SAFE OPEN! BUT FIRST, I'LL BIND AND GAG YOU, TO MAKE SURE YOU GIVE ME NO MORE TROUBLE!
OH -- YOU FOOL! YOU MUST BELIEVE ME!
BUT SOON, DESPITE MR. LANG'S PROTESTS...
NOW TO TAPE YOUR MOUTH AND -- AND... WAIT! WHY, THERE'S THE PACKAGE -- RIGHT THERE! THOUGHT YOU'D PULL A SMART ONE, EH, LANG?
IN THAT CASE, I WON'T NEED THIS NITRO ANYMORE! I'LL SET IT HERE FOR A MINUTE, WHILE I OPEN THE BOX!
NITRO
BUT NEXT MOMENT, AS PROFESSOR JETHROW OPENS THE STRANGE LITTLE BOX...
THE DIAMOND OF THE PHARAOHS! IT'S MAGNIFICENT! IT'S -- IT'S... OH-HHHHHH... WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING? I F-FEEL AS IF -- OHHHHHH...
THE CURSE! IT GOT HIM -- JUST AS I WARNED! AND THE BOX IS CLOSED AGAIN! BUT WORSE THAN THAT -- THE NITRO'S STILL ON THE CLOCK SHELF! IN TWO MINUTES, THE CUCKOO WILL EMERGE AGAIN AND KNOCK IT OVER... AND THE CONCUSSION WILL CAUSE A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION!
4

AT THAT MOMENT, OUTSIDE THE SMALLVILLE THEATER...
OH, DEAR--I THINK I LEFT MY PURSE ON THE STREET CAR, UNLESS-- MAYBE I LEFT IT IN DAD'S STUDY! DID YOU NOTICE, CLARK?
I DIDN'T-- BUT I CAN TAKE A QUICK LOOK NOW WITH MY TELESCOPIC VISION!
SWEET SH
Master of the BOOMERANG
AND AS CLARK SECRETLY FOCUSES HIS SUPER-VISION ON MR. LANG'S STUDY...
GREAT SCOTT! WHAT'S HAPPENED THERE? THAT NITRO-GLYCERINE ON THE CLOCK... IN SECONDS, THE CUCKOO WILL KNOCK IT OVER AND THE CONCUSSION WILL SET IT OFF! THERE'S NOT EVEN TIME FOR SUPERBOY TO GET THERE!
BUT AS LANA TURNS HER BACK FOR A MOMENT, CLARK'S RESOURCEFULNESS COMES TO THE RESCUE...
IF I CAN ONLY MANAGE TO THROW THIS BOOMERANG INTO THAT OPEN STUDIO WINDOW BEFORE SHE NOTICES!
SWE
Today's Ma BO
BUT AN INSTANT AFTER CLARK HURLS THE WEAPON...
I SAW YOU STEAL THAT BOOMERANG, YOUNG MAN! WHAT DID YOU DO WITH IT?
THE MANAGER! WHY-- HOW RIDICULOUS TO ACCUSE YOU OF SUCH A THING!
SW
WHILE IN THE LANG STUDY...
SWISH
CLINK
EH? SOME LOOSE SPRING HAS TOSSED THE CUCKOO SIDEWAYS OFF THE CLOCK, AND KEPT IT FROM UPSETTING THE NITRO! IT--IT'S A MIRACLE!
AND A SPLIT-SECOND LATER, AS THE BOOMERANG RETURNS AT INVISIBLE SUPER-SPEED TO THE HAND OF ITS THROWER...
I PICKED IT UP TO LOOK AT IT... BUT I WASN'T TRYING TO STEAL IT! HERE-- TAKE IT!
IMAGINE! ACCUSING MY ESCORT OF STEALING! I WOULDN'T GO TO YOUR OLD MOVIE NOW FOR ANYTHING! COME ON, CLARK... TAKE ME HOME!
Australian BOOMERANG
5

THUS, BACK IN THE LANG STUDY, 20 MINUTES LATER...
GOOD HEAVENS! WHAT'S HAPPENED HERE?
I'LL GET YOUR FATHER LOOSE! YOU HURRY AND PHONE FOR AN AMBULANCE FOR THIS OTHER FELLOW! HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S IN A BAD WAY!
SO HALF HOUR AFTERWARDS, IN THE CORRIDOR OF SMALLVILLE HOSPITAL...
... AND NATURALLY, I WAS AFRAID I'D BE LAUGHED AT WHEN I INSISTED THERE WAS AN ANCIENT CURSE ON THAT EGYPTIAN JEWEL BOX! BUT-- YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENED TO POOR JETHROW! I ONLY HOPE HE'LL LIVE!
MAYBE IF I TAKE A CAREFUL LOOK...
LANA! SHE'S OPENING IT! STOP HER! OH-HH... IT'S TOO LATE!
EEK
SHE'S UNCONSCIOUS-- AND THE BOX HAS SNAPPED SHUT AGAIN!
DOCTOR! HURRY! NOW MY DAUGHTER'S BEEN STRICKEN!
GOLLY-- NO WONDER! THERE'S A CONCEALED NEEDLE THAT STABS THE FINGER AS YOU OPEN THE LID! THAT'S YOUR "CURSE"... AN INJECTED POISON!
WHAT?? DID IT GET YOU, TOO?
NO... I-- ER-- PULLED THE NEEDLE OUT! SEE?
BUT-- HOW...? WAIT! THAT SYMBOL ON THE CARVED LEAF THE JEWEL IS RESTING ON... IT STANDS FOR AN ANTIDOTE! LET ME SEE!
ACCORDING TO THESE HIEROGLYPHICS, THE ANTIDOTE IS A LEAF OF THE RARE PYRAMID PLANT, WHICH GROWS ONLY AT THE BASE OF THE LOST GIANT PYRAMID IN EGYPT!
6

IN THAT CASE, IT'S TOO LATE! THIS POISON IS SURE TO KILL JETHROW AND YOUR DAUGHTER WITHIN EIGHT HOURS!
NOT IF I CAN FIND SUPERBOY! HE'S OUR ONLY HOPE OF LOCATING THAT ANTIDOTE IN TIME!
OUTSIDE, A LIGHTNING SWITCH TRANSFORMS THE MILD-MANNERED LAD INTO--SUPERBOY!
AND A MOMENT LATER...
AS I RECALL, THE GIANT PYRAMID HAS BEEN BURIED UNDER EGYPTIAN DESERT SANDS FOR OVER 2,000 YEARS! HOPE I CAN SPOT IT WITH MY X-RAY VISION!

BUT AFTER A CAREFUL SCANNING OF THE ANCIENT DUNES OF EGYPT...
NO SIGN OF THAT BURIED PYRAMID IN THIS PART OF THE DESERT--AND THE SAND IN THAT WESTERN PORTION CONTAINS SUCH A HIGH PROPORTION OF LEAD, MY X-RAY VISION CAN'T PENETRATE IT! ONLY ONE THING TO DO!

SCOOPING UP AND COMPRESSING MASSES OF SAND, SUPERBOY FORMS SOME STRANGELY SHAPED BRICKS...
I'LL HAVE TO DIG FOR THE MISSING PYRAMID! BUT WITH NO TIME TO WASTE, I NEED A TOOL TO SPEED THINGS UP...AND DESERT SAND IS ALL I HAVE TO WORK WITH!

AFTER MOLDING A HUGE PILE OF BRICKS, THE BOY OF STEEL BEGINS FITTING THEM TOGETHER...
THESE INTERLOCKING BRICKS ARE HARD ENOUGH TO DIG THROUGH SAND, BUT SOFT ENOUGH TO DISINTEGRATE IF I SHOULD RUN UP AGAINST THE PYRAMID!

USING SUPER-STRENGTH TO POWER THE MIGHTY PLOW, SUPERBOY STARTS A SERIES OF DEEP CHANNELS IN THE SAND...
IF THAT PYRAMID IS ANYWHERE IN THIS AREA, ONE OF THESE CHANNELS IS BOUND TO CUT INTO IT!

AND SURE ENOUGH, WITHIN A FEW MINUTES...
IT'S THE GIANT PYRAMID. ALL RIGHT! I CAN TELL FROM ITS SIZE! IN ANOTHER MOMENT, I'LL BE ABLE TO LOOK FOR THE PLANT THAT CAN SAVE THE LIVES OF LANA AND PROFESSOR JETHROW!
SHORTLY AFTER, AS HE SMASHES HIS WAY THROUGH AN ENTRANCE THAT HAS REMAINED SEALED FOR CENTURIES..
NOW WE'LL SEE! THERE'S A PLOT OF EARTH OVER THERE THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN USED FOR GROWING PLANTS! THERE'S EVEN THE BED OF AN UNDERGROUND STREAM THAT SUPPLIED THE WATER!
BUT AS SUPERBOY BENDS OVER THE HARD, BARE PLOT...
GOLLY... IF THE PLANT DID GROW HERE, IT MOLDED TO DUST LONG AGO, WITH THE DRYING UP OF THE STREAM! NOTHING HERE BUT SOME SEEDS... AND WITH ONLY A FEW HOURS TO GO, WHAT GOOD WILL SEEDS DO LANA AND JETHROW?
IT SEEMS ALMOST HOPELESS! IF THERE WERE ONLY A COUPLE DAYS LEFT, I COULD SEARCH THE ENTIRE EARTH-- EVEN THE STARS-- FOR AN ANTIDOTE!
WAIT A MINUTE! THE STARS...THAT'S IT! THERE MIGHT JUST BE A CHANCE! AND THE PLANET VENUS IS SO NEAR THE SUN, ITS PLANTS GROW MUCH FASTER THAN ON EARTH! I MUST GET THERE AT ONCE... IT'S THE ONLY HOPE LEFT!
SWIFTLY, SUPERBOY STREAKS TOWARD THE STEAMING TROPICAL PLANET...
OF COURSE, RICH AS THIS SOIL IS, IT'LL NEED A LITTLE HELP TO MAKE THE SEED OF THIS SPECIAL PLANT SPROUT FAST ENOUGH!

IN THE MEANTIME, BACK AT THE HOSPITAL...
ONLY AN HOUR LEFT, AND STILL NO WORD FROM SUPERBOY! MAYBE CLARK NEVER GOT TO HIM! AFTER ALL, HE TOUCHED THAT POISON NEEDLE, TOO! HE'S PROBABLY LYING UNCONSCIOUS SOMEWHERE UNLESS...
... UNLESS CLARK IS SUPERBOY HIMSELF! BUT THEN -- IF HE IS -- WHAT'S KEEPING HIM? I CAN'T STAND THIS SUSPENSE!
EASY NOW -- EASY! IT WON'T HELP ANY IF YOU CRACK UP, LANG!
WHILE ON FARAWAY VENUS...
ELECTRICAL WARMING OF THE SOIL HAS BEEN USED SUCCESSFULLY TO SPEED PLANT GROWTH ON EARTH! HERE, I CAN DOUBLE THE EFFECT WITH THESE MANUFACTURED LIGHTNING BOLTS!
BACK
FINALLY, WITH ONLY MINUTES OF LIFE REMAINING TO THE POISON VICTIMS...
I'VE DONE IT! NOW I'LL WRAP THEM IN MY CAPE, TO PROTECT THEM FROM THE HEAT GENERATED BY MY SPEED, AND TAKE OFF FOR EARTH -- AND THE HOSPITAL!
AND AS A BURST OF SUPER-SPEED SENDS HIM STREAKING TO HIS DESTINATION...
AT LAST! SUPERBOY! AND JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME!
I'VE BROUGHT THE PLANTS -- BUT WHAT A TIME I HAD GETTING THEM! HERE -- THEY'RE WRAPPED IN MY CAPE!
OUCH! THAT CAPE'S LIKE A HOT IRON!
OH -- I'M SORRY! IT'S STILL HOT ON THE OUTSIDE FROM THE SPEED OF MY MOVEMENTS! I'LL GET THE PLANTS OUT FOR YOU!

THEN, WITH THE DOCTOR INSIDE, PREPARING THE ANTIDOTE...
IF ONLY THAT PLANT WORKS!
IT'S GOT TO WORK, SUPERBOY! IT JUST HAS TO!
23
AND ONLY A FEW MINUTES LATER...
THE ANTIDOTE WORKED! THEY'RE RECOVERING SO FAST, THEY'LL BOTH BE UP AND AROUND BY TOMORROW! NOW I CAN GO TREAT THESE CAPE BURNS ON MY FINGERTIPS!
GUESS I CAN LEAVE TOO!
THANK GOODNESS!
WAIT, SUPERBOY! BEFORE YOU GO, THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK YOU-- ABOUT CLARK!
ER-- SORRY... BUT WE'LL HAVE TO MAKE IT ANOTHER TIME, MR. LANG! I'M IN A HURRY... I-- ER-- JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT!
BUT MR. LANG'S QUESTION IS NOT EVADED SO EASILY -- FOR NEXT DAY, AT SCHOOL, AS A RECOVERED LANA CONFRONTS CLARK...
BY THE WAY, CLARK-- MY FATHER IS STILL WONDERING HOW YOU OPENED THAT JEWEL BOX WITHOUT GETTING HURT, AND... WHY, CLARK-- YOU'VE GOT YOUR FINGERTIPS BANDAGED TOO! HOW COME?
OH-- ER-- NOTHING! I-- UH-- WOULDN'T WANT TO BLAME SUPERBOY, BUT...
WAIT-- DON'T TELL ME! WAS IT FROM TOUCHING SUPERBOY'S CAPE AFTER HE'D BEEN TRAVELLING AT SUPER-SPEED?
GROCERIES
WHY... ER... HOW DID YOU GUESS?
IF IT COULD HAPPEN TO THE HOSPITAL DOCTOR YESTERDAY, WHY NOT YOU? ANYHOW, THAT EXPLAINS WHY THE NEEDLE DIDN'T PIERCE YOUR FINGER! IMAGINE... DAD AND I SUSPECTED IT WAS BECAUSE YOU'RE SUPERBOY! HOW FOOLISH OF US!
THE END

Shorty
HMM-THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A GOOD MOVIE!
PLAYING
PURPLE Sage"
I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THIS ONE!
AND..
THIS ONE ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE SO HOT!
"ACROSS the SEA"
THIS MOVIE LOOKS GOOD!
ONE, PLEASE!
ADMISSION
WOW
ZZZZZ
END

SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
1906
IMAGINE THAT YOUR SCHOOL OR HOME TOWN HAD A BAND WITH SUPERBOY AS ITS STAR PERFORMER! YOU'D EXPECT SOMETHING EXCITING TO HAPPEN EVERY MOMENT THE BAND WAS PERFORMING, WOULDN'T YOU? BUT, ALAS, THE BOY OF STEEL IS SO BUSY THAT HE RARELY CAN TAKE TIME OUT FOR SUCH FUN... UNLESS, AS HAPPENS IN HIS OWN HOME TOWN, MYSTERIOUS EVENTS FORCE HIM TO JOIN...
"The HEPCATS OF SMALLVILLE!"
SHAME ON SUPERBOY! SO MUCH WORK TO BE DONE, AND HE WASTES HIS TIME ON THIS TOMFOOLERY!
WAAA

ONE EVENING, AS CLARK KENT WALKS HOME WITH "ALLEGRO" JONES, LEADER OF THE SMALLVILLE YOUTH BAND...
HOW ABOUT IT, CLARK? YOU CAN PLAY A FEW INSTRUMENTS... WHY NOT JOIN UP WITH US? WE'RE REALLY COOL -- AND GETTING CLOSER TO ZERO EVERY DAY!
I--I'D LIKE TO, ALLEGRO...BUT I--ER--HAVE TOO MUCH STUDYING TO DO!
SEE?... FOR THIS ANNUAL PAVEMENT POLKA, THEY HIRE THE BEST AMATEUR BAND IN SMALLVILLE -- AND THIS YEAR, WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO PLAY!
WISH I COULD JOIN ALLEGRO'S BAND -- BUT MY DUTIES AS SUPERBOY JUST KEEP ME TOO BUSY!
DANCING. IN THE STREETS THURSDAY NITE 9 P.M.
EVERYONE WELCOME ADMISSION 50 CENTS PROCEEDS TO CHARITY
A LITTLE LATER, WHEN CLARK ARRIVES HOME...
YOU LOOK UPSET, DAD... WHAT'S WRONG?
THAT INFERNAL NOISE... NEXT DOOR... IT'S LANA, PRACTISING FOR THE YOUTH BAND! I DON'T MIND MUSIC -- BUT THAT WAILING... I CAN'T READ OR RELAX -- OR ANYTHING!
DON'T WORRY, DAD... I'LL GET YOU A LITTLE QUIET, AS SOON AS I'VE SWITCHED TO SUPERBOY!
WAAA
IN AN INSTANT, THE BOY OF STEEL EXITS WITH A BLUR OF SPEED -- AND MOMENTS LATER...
JUST SIT IN YOUR FAVORITE SPOTS, DAD AND MOM! THIS ARMFUL OF PLASTIC WILL GIVE YOU A QUIET EVENING -- NO MATTER HOW LONG LANA PLAYS!
I'LL JUST THIN IT OUT AND FASHION IT INTO A HUGE BUBBLE OVER YOU...
... AND YOU CAN RELAX IN YOUR OWN SOUND-PROOF CHAMBER!
AAAH -- PEACE AND QUIET AT LAST! FOR AWHILE, I WAS REALLY GETTING TO HATE THAT BAND!
2

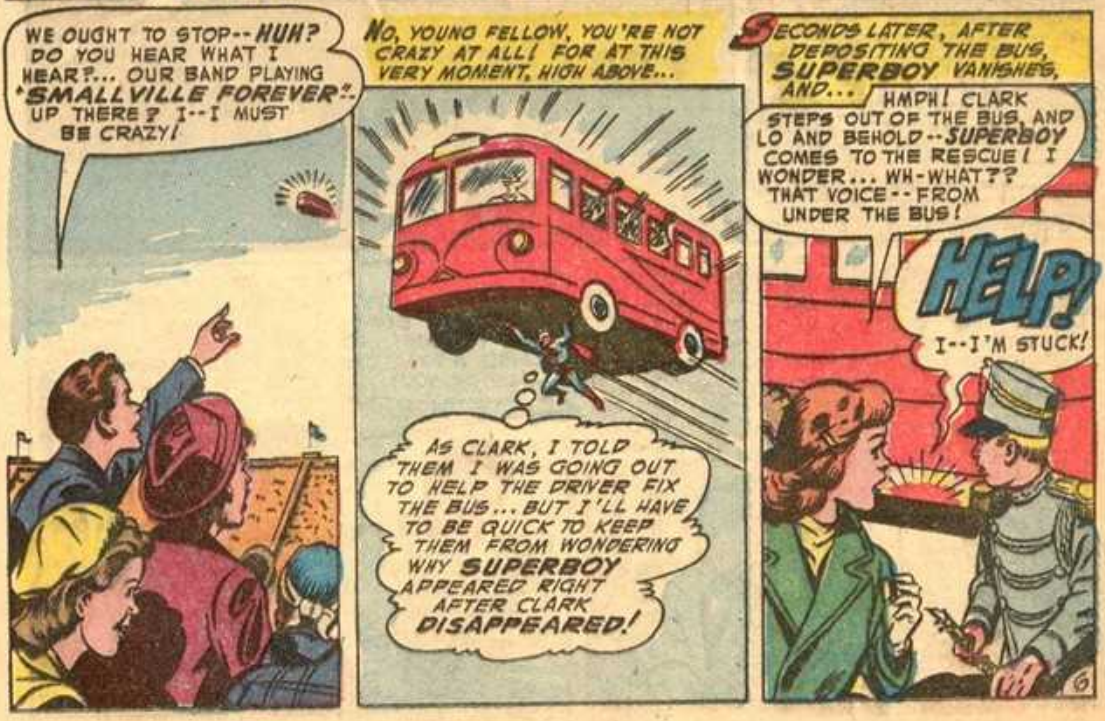
YES, THE SMALLVILLE YOUTH BAND IS AFFECTING EVERYONE--ESPECIALLY "NITRO" ALLEN AND TWO OF HIS CRONIES, UNSUSPECTED VISITORS TO SMALLVILLE...
THEM BLASTED KIDS... WE GOTTA STOP THAT BAND! OTHERWISE, WE'RE OUT 1,000,000 BUCKS!
DON'T WORRY, NITRO... WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THEM!
NITRO'S MEN ARE AS GOOD AS THEIR WORD, FOR NEXT EVENING, AT THE SMALLVILLE YOUTH CENTER, WHERE THE BAND IS SCHEDULED TO PLAY...
WE--WE'RE SORRY... BUT THERE'LL BE NO MUSIC TONIGHT! SOB! AND NO MORE BAND! SOMEONE SMASHED ALL OUR INSTRUMENTS!
AND A GOOD JOB, TOO... BUT WHY? I'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS AS SUPERBOY--BUT FIRST I MUST SEE TO IT THAT THE BAND PLAYS TONIGHT!
SLIPPING OUTSIDE, CLARK QUICKLY DOFFS HIS OUTER GARMENTS, AND RE-APPEARS AS...
SUPERBOY! WE NEED...
I KNOW WHAT YOU NEED--AND YOU'RE GOING TO GET IT! TELL EVERYONE HERE TO STAY PUT... YOU'LL BE JOUNCING THEM WITH JIVE IN TEN MINUTES!
SOON, AT A JUNK HEAP OUTSIDE TOWN...
FIRST, USING SUPER-STRENGTH, I'LL SHAPE THIS SCRAP METAL INTO A LARGE FRYING PAN...
... AND THEN MAKE A LONG HANDLE OUT OF THIS RAIL!
THUNK!
NEXT, I'LL MOLD THIS HARD CLAY I COLLECTED INTO THE SHAPE OF EVERY MUSICAL INSTRUMENT IN THE BAND, AND THEN GET A FIRE STARTED!
3

SOON...
I'LL MELT DOWN THIS METAL SCRAP UNTIL IT'S RED-HOT AND MOLTEN...
...SO THAT I CAN COAT EACH CLAY MODEL WITH IT! WHEN THEY COOL OFF, I'LL KNOCK OUT THE CLAY AND HAVE BRAND-NEW INSTRUMENTS!
THUS, WITHIN MINUTES, BACK AT THE YOUTH CENTER...
HERE YOU ARE BOYS-- HOT OFF THE GRIDDLE-- AND I MEAN GRIDDLE!
THANKS, SUPERBOY! IF YOU THINK THEY'RE HOT NOW, JUST WAIT TILL YOU HEAR US PLAY THEM!
AS SPEEDILY AS HE CAME, SUPERBOY LEAVES-- TO BE REPLACED BY MILD-MANNERED CLARK KENT...
NOW I'LL SEE IF I CAN FIND OUT WHO SMASHED THOSE INSTRUMENTS, AND WHY!
HI, ALLEGRO! I-- ER-- DECIDED TO ACCEPT YOUR OFFER-- AND TRY OUT FOR THE BAND AFTER ALL!
SWELL! LET'S SEE HOW GOOD YOU ARE AT THE DRUM!
CLARK REACHES FOR A DRUMSTICK, WINDS UP, AND...
HEY! WATCH OUT! ONCE A DAY IS ENOUGH TO SMASH THOSE INSTRUMENTS!
OOPS! SORRY, ALLEGRO! M-MUST'VE BEEN A WEAK SPOT IN THIS DRUM!
KA-THUMP!
YOU JUST DON'T KNOW YOUR OWN STRENGTH! HERE-- TRY THIS... AND MAKE SURE YOU DON'T BLOW THE WALLS DOWN!
GULP! I--I'LL BE CAREFUL!
I WAS THINKING SO HARD ABOUT THOSE SMASHED INSTRUMENTS, I REALLY DID FORGET MY STRENGTH! MUST BE MORE CAREFUL!
4

BUT AS CLARK STARTS PLAYING..
OH, OH... WITH MY TELESCOPIC VISION, I SEE SOME CROOKS FLEEING FROM THE POLICE IN A GETAWAY CAR! HAVE TO STOP THEM SOMEHOW--YET I CAN'T CHANGE TO SUPERBOY NOW!
WAIT... THESE DARTS! I CAN SNATCH ONE AND STICK IT IN THE CLARINET SO FAST, NO ONE CAN SEE IT HAPPEN!
NEXT INSTANT, A SUPER-BLAST OF THE CLARINET SENDS A WELL-AIMED DART STRAIGHT TO ITS MARK!
GOT THEM! THEY WON'T GO VERY FAR WITH A FLAT TIRE!
KA-BLAM!
OWW!
WHAT A SOUR NOTE THAT WAS! YOU'RE HOPELESS, CLARK! TRY THOSE CYMBALS... EVEN YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO BANG THEM TOGETHER AT THE RIGHT TIME!
HA, HA... GUESS I DIDN'T--ER--READ THAT NOTE QUITE RIGHT! OKAY, ALLEGRO--I'LL TRY THE CYMBALS!
MUSTN'T FOUL THIS UP, TOO! I'VE GOT TO STAY IN THE BAND IF I'M TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF THOSE SMASHED INSTRUMENTS!
HMM... AT LEAST THAT DOESN'T STRAIN YOUR MUSICAL ABILITIES! KEEP PRACTISING NOW--SO YOU'LL BE READY, WHEN WE PLAY AT THE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL GAME TOMORROW!
CLANG
MEANWHILE, NOT FAR AWAY...
WELL?... WHAT HAPPENED? I THOUGHT YOU GUYS WERE GOING TO FINISH THAT KID BAND!
WE TRIED, NITRO-- BUT CAN WE HELP IT IF THAT SUPER-BRAT HAPPENED ALONG?
YEAH-- BUT TAKE IT EASY! WE'LL GET THEM TOMORROW!
5

NEXT DAY, ENROUTE TO THE FOOTBALL GAME BETWEEN SMALLVILLE AND HADLEY HIGH SCHOOLS...
COME ON! GET HER GOING! WE GOT A TUNE DATE, AND IT CAN'T WAIT!
SORRY, KID-- I'M DOING MY BEST, BUT SHE JUST WON'T START! I'LL GO OUT AND TAKE A LOOK!
AND AFTER A QUICK INSPECTION...
SOMEONE DID A GOOD JOB ON THE ENGINE... HALF THE CONNECTING RODS ARE BROKEN! I'M AFRAID YOU KIDS WILL HAVE TO WALK!
WHAT--? NOW WHY SHOULD ANYONE PLAY A TRICK LIKE THAT ON US?
GOLLY... HOW CAN I SWITCH TO SUPERBOY AND DELIVER THEM TO THE GAME WITHOUT ANYONE GETTING SUSPICIOUS?

IN THE MEANTIME, AT HADLEY STADIUM...
GOSH--LOOK AT THE HADLEY BAND! THEY'RE GOOD-- BUT I KNOW OURS IS BETTER! WHY AREN'T THEY HERE?
THEY'RE JUST NOT RELIABLE! WE HAD TO WAIT FOR SUPERBOY TO MAKE THEIR INSTRUMENTS THE OTHER NIGHT--AND NOW THEY JUST DON'T SHOW UP!


WE OUGHT TO STOP--HUH? DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?... OUR BAND PLAYING "SMALLVILLE FOREVER"... UP THERE? I--I MUST BE CRAZY!
NO, YOUNG FELLOW, YOU'RE NOT CRAZY AT ALL! FOR AT THIS VERY MOMENT, HIGH ABOVE...
AS CLARK, I TOLD THEM I WAS GOING OUT TO HELP THE DRIVER FIX THE BUS... BUT I'LL HAVE TO BE QUICK TO KEEP THEM FROM WONDERING WHY SUPERBOY APPEARED RIGHT AFTER CLARK DISAPPEARED!
SECONDS LATER, AFTER DEPOSITING THE BUS, SUPERBOY VANISHES, AND...
HMPH! CLARK STEPS OUT OF THE BUS, AND LO AND BEHOLD--SUPERBOY COMES TO THE RESCUE! I WONDER... WH-WHAT?? THAT VOICE--FROM UNDER THE BUS!
HELP!
I--I'M STUCK!

WHEW! WHAT AN EXPERIENCE! I CRAWLED UNDER HERE TO SEE IF I COULD FIX THE RODS, AND NEXT THING I KNEW, I WAS FLYING!
OKAY--YOU'RE ALL RIGHT NOW, SO SNAP OUT OF IT! WE HAVE TO GO INTO ACTION!
ALLEGRO JONES ISN'T THE ONLY ONE INTERESTED IN ACTION--FOR SOON AFTERWARD, AT THE HIDEOUT OF NITRO ALLEN...
YOU GUYS GOT NO IMAGINATION! DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?... IF WE CAN'T STOP THEM KIDS, WE LOSE $1,000,000! NEVER MIND-- DON'T ANSWER! JUST SHUT UP AND LET ME THINK! THEY'RE PLAYING AT A PARTY TOMORROW NIGHT... I'LL COME UP WITH SOMETHING!
BUT SUPERBOY HAS PLANS, TOO, AS THAT NIGHT, HE PAYS A VISIT TO A SMALLVILLE DANCE HALL...
BY APPLYING SUPER-PRESSURE AND SUPER-FRICTION TO THIS ROCK, I CONVERT IT INTO A FINE DUST WHICH ONLY MY MICROSCOPIC VISION CAN DETECT! HOPE IT DOES THE JOB!
HOW WILL ORDINARY DUST AID SUPERBOY? CAN YOU GUESS?
THE FOLLOWING EVENING, IN THAT SAME DANCE HALL...
DON'T FORGET, KIDS... KEEP YOUR EYES AND EARS PEELED FOR THE SQUARES WHO ARE TRYING TO PUT US OUT OF BUSINESS!
COME ON, ALLEGRO... LET'S GET THIS PARTY GOING!
BUT NO SOONER DOES THE MUSIC START, THAN...
HEY! WHO PUT OUT THE LIGHTS?
OWW! MY WRISTS!
MOMENTS LATER, WHEN THE LIGHTS GO ON AGAIN...
LOOK! SOMEONE HANDCUFFED ME! I--I CAN'T PLAY A NOTE!
OH, OH... MUST GET THOSE HANDCUFFS OFF WITHOUT SWITCHING TO SUPERBOY!
ER... LET ME LOOK AT THEM!
AH--JUST AS I THOUGHT... TOY HANDCUFFS! SOMEONE WAS JUST...ER... PLAYING A PRACTICAL JOKE ON YOU!
NOW TO GET RID OF THEM BEFORE ANYONE DISCOVERS THEY'RE SOLID STEEL, WHICH ONLY SUPERBOY COULD'VE SNAPPED!

SO HOURS AFTERWARD, FOLLOWING ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL PERFORMANCE...
WELL, KIDS -- WE DID IT! OUR MYSTERY ENEMY HASN'T STOPPED US... AND TO CELEBRATE TOMORROW NIGHT'S ENGAGEMENT -- THE ANNUAL STREET DANCE -- I'VE PLANNED A BIG PARTY AT MY HOUSE, AT FOUR IN THE AFTERNOON!
JUST WHEN THE DANGER WILL BE GREATEST! I HOPE MY PLAN WORKED -- SO I CAN PREVENT IT!
NEXT MORNING...
SOMEHOW, WE FAILED LAST NIGHT -- BUT WE WON'T TODAY! THOSE KIDS ARE PLANNING A PARTY! WE'LL HIJACK THE TRUCK BRINGING THEM EATS, AND DOSE THE FOOD WITH SLEEPING POWDER! THEN ONE OF US WILL TAKE THE PLACE OF THE DRIVER!
HA, HA... THAT'LL STOP THEM -- AND THEN THAT $1,000,000 IS OURS!
LATER, AT THE PARTY...
GOSH, I'M SLEEPY -- BETTER TAKE A NAP -- BEFORE TONIGHT'S }YAWN{ PERFORMANCE!
ME }YAWN{ TOO... SEE YOU }YAWN{ LATER.
JUST AS I EXPECTED! I'LL PRETEND TO BE JUST AS SLEEPY AS THEY ARE! THEN I'LL LEAVE AS CLARK, AND WHEN NO ONE'S LOOKING, SWITCH TO SUPERBOY!
PRESENTLY...
I'LL HAVE TO TELL EVERYONE THE DANCING IS CALLED OFF FOR TONIGHT, AND THEN -- WELL -- THEN I HAVE A LITTLE APPOINTMENT TO KEEP!
SHORTLY BEFORE NINE THAT NIGHT, NEAR THE SMALLVILLE BANK...
HA, HA... ANY SECOND, THE TIME BOMB I PUT IN THE SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX I RENTED LAST WEEK WILL GO OFF -- AND BLOW THAT WALL TO BITS!
THEN WE PICK UP THE DOUGH AND MAKE OUR GET-AWAY! LUCKY WE GOT THE DANCE CANCELLED... OTHERWISE HALF OF SMALLVILLE WOULD'VE FILLED THESE STREETS, AND ALL YOUR PLANS WOULD'VE GONE TO WASTE!
ASSEMBLE HERE FOR STREET DANCING
SMALLVILLE
DELICATESSEN
IT TOOK WEEKS TO MAKE THAT BOMB, AND IF WE HAD TO TAKE IT OUT AND START ALL OVER, WE'D -- HUH? IT -- IT'S...
YES -- IT'S SUPERBOY! DON'T WORRY THOUGH... IF YOU FELLOWS WANT TO GET INTO THE BANK, I'LL OBLIGE YOU!
8

I'LL REPAIR THIS DOOR LATER -- BUT WHEN FELLOWS SHOW THE PERSISTENCE YOU DID TO SMASH INTO THAT BANK, THEY OUGHT TO BE REWARDED!
NO! NO! YOU GOT US ALL WRONG! WE-- WE DON'T WANT TO GO IN!
KRASH
SMALLVILLE BANK
BANK ROBBERS WANTING TO STAY OUT OF A BANK? HMPH -- RIDICULOUS!
PLEASE -- LET US OUT! THERE'S A BOMB IN HERE... IT'S SET TO EXPLODE IN A FEW MINUTES!
PAYING
CHECKING
BONDS
A FEW MINUTES? THAT'S JUST ENOUGH TIME FOR YOU TO EXPLAIN WHY YOU TRIED TO SABOTAGE THE BAND!
SURE, SURE -- I'LL CONFESS! IT'S THE ONLY WAY I CAN GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE!
WE TRIED TO DISCREDIT THE BAND SO THAT TONIGHT'S STREET DANCE WOULD BE POSTPONED! WE DIDN'T WANT ALL THOSE PEOPLE AROUND WHEN THE BOMB WENT OFF! BUT... HOW'D YOU KNOW OUR PLAN?
SIMPLE, NITRO...
BUY BONDS TODAY
"THE NIGHT YOU HANDCUFFED THE PIANIST, I'D SPRINKLED THE FLOOR WITH A SPECIAL POWDER -- AND AFTERWARDS, I FOLLOWED EVERY SET OF FOOTSTEPS, UNTIL..."
HMM... NITRO ALLEN, NOTORIOUS BANK ROBBER! IF HE'S BEHIND THIS, I'D BETTER LOOK OVER OUR BANK!
HOTEL
WITH MY X-RAY VISION, I SPOTTED YOUR TIME BOMB AND REMOVED IT! OF COURSE, I DIDN'T TELL YOU THAT, BECAUSE I WANTED TO TRAP YOU INTO CONFESSING!
YOU MEAN -- THE BANK WOULDN'T HAVE BLOWN UP WHILE WE WERE IN IT? HUH -- THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR TRYING A JOB IN SMALLVILLE!
SMALLVILLE BANK
A LITTLE LATER, AFTER DROPPING THE CRIMINALS AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
THEN YOU KNEW ALL ALONG THAT THE FOOD WAS DOSED WITH SLEEPING POWDER?
YES -- BUT I SECRETLY REMOVED MOST OF IT, LEAVING JUST ENOUGH TO MAKE THE BAND MEMBERS A LITTLE DROWSY! NOW, I'M GOING TO LET EVERYONE KNOW THERE WILL BE DANCING TONIGHT!
9

SO PRESENTLY, HIGH ABOVE THE TOWN...
CALLING ALL SMALLVILLITES! STREET DANCING WILL BE HELD TONIGHT!
WOW!-- WHAT LUNG POWER! I BET EVERYONE FOR 20 MILES AROUND HEARD THAT! LET'S GO!
ALLEN'S DRUGS
MARKET
AND MINUTES LATER...
YOU CALLED US HERE -- BUT WHERE'S THE BAND?
THEY'LL BE HERE IN ABOUT AN HOUR! THEY'RE JUST RESTING UP TO GIVE YOU THEIR BEST! BUT, TILL THEY COME, I'LL BE THE BAND!
LET'S GO! POUND THE PAVEMENT WITH THAT POLKA -- AS ALLEGRO JONES WOULD SAY!
HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT? HE MOVES FROM ONE INSTRUMENT TO THE OTHER SO FAST THAT THE TONES BLEND TOGETHER AND IT REALLY SOUNDS LIKE A FULL BAND PLAYING TOGETHER! SUPERBOY SURE DOES BEAT THE BAND!
10
THE END

ADVERTISEMENT

Scripto GUARANTEES THE BEST... in writing!

Always use Scripto leads and erasers.
Scripto, Inc., Atlanta, Ga.

SCRIPTO RETRACTABLE BALL PEN with original ink approved by banks. No leaks.

SCRIPTO SELF-SHARPENING PENCIL writes 23,000 words on one long 4-inch lead.

ONLY 29¢ EACH
Fed. Tax Included

No smear.

Scripto gives you the most in writing value at the lowest price. Precision manufacturing methods, know-how and skill have made Scripto the world's largest manufacturer of mechanical writing instruments.

SCRIPTO INK RESERVE FOUNTAIN PEN
Never again be caught with an empty pen!
ONLY $1.00 Fed. Tax Included

BEBE
HENRY BOLTHOFF
OH, MOMMY!
MAY I HAVE A NICKEL FOR THE OLD MAN WHO IS CRYING OUTSIDE?
YES, DEAR. BUT WHAT IS THE OLD MAN CRYING ABOUT?
HE'S CRYING, SALTED PEANUTS, FIVE CENTS A BAG!
END

CAPSULE QUIZ

WANT to rate your I. Q.? Here's a questionnaire, hard or simple, depending on your ability. Count each question 10 points, and make the passing marks accordingly. Good luck!

QUESTIONS

1. What are toothpaste tubes made of?
2. How does a seismograph detect earthquakes?
3. Why is it that a person often wakes up just before the alarm clock goes off?
4. Is there any animal that can get along without water?
5. Does lightning go up or down?
6. Why is it colder on top of a mountain than at the bottom even though you may be several miles nearer the sun, which is the source of our heat?
7. Does an angle worm feel any pain when impaled on a fish-hook?
8. What is the greatest age that a person has been known to live?
9. What is black lightning?
10. What is the stratosphere?

ANSWERS

1. Originally, such collapsible tubes were made of lead and tin alloys, but now they are generally made of aluminum. Often the inside is treated to give better corrosion resistance. They are made by pushing soft metal through hard steel dies, in much the same manner that the toothpaste itself is "extruded" through the opening of the tube onto the toothbrush.

2. If you place a coin on a piece of paper and pull the paper away very quickly, the coin will not move. The property of the coin, or of any matter, that resists such movement is called "inertia." In a seismograph, there is a heavy weight, delicately balanced so it can move freely. When vibrations from an earthquake arrive, the ground moves but the heavy mass, like the coin, tends to remain fixed. Thus there is relative movement between the weight and the ground, which is detected by sensitive electrical equipment and recorded, greatly magnified, on a strip of photographic paper. By analyzing these records, the distance, and even the direction, of the center of the quake may be determined.

3. Experiments have been made with students who thought they could wake up "any time they pleased." They were put in a dark room with cotton in their ears, and it was found that they could not tell the time even within two or three hours. Psychologists believe that just as we may look at our watches during the day without realizing it, at night we may also check subconsciously while we are asleep by such things as the time the milkman comes or

a factory whistle blows. Also, many alarm clocks have a very faint click as the gears get the mechanism ready to ring.

It is well known that very often we "hear" subconsciously what we cannot hear consciously, so such a click, faint as it is, might serve to awaken a person in advance of the actual ringing of the alarm. You might try putting the clock in another room, and then seeing if you wake up before it goes off.

4. All animals require water in their bodies, but some can get it without actually drinking the liquid. For example, zoologists have found that the desert rat, which lives in the driest regions, such as the bare sand dunes of Death Valley, can get along indefinitely without water and with only dry barley seeds for food. In spite of this, it maintains about 65% of its body weight as water.

Even dry seeds contain a very small amount of water, which it uses but most of it is actually made in the animal's body. The food contains hydrogen, and the rat's digestive processes can extract this, and combine it with oxygen from the air, to make water which consists of these two elements.

5. It actually goes both ways. Lightning usually occurs after negative electrical charges accumulate at the bottom of a cloud. This causes positive charges to gather on the ground below and finally there is a discharge. At first, it extends downwards from the cloud, in a series of perhaps 20 or more steps, depending on the height of the cloud. When the lower end is a few hundred feet above the ground, the positive charges there are so concentrated that streamers may arise many feet to meet the descending bolt. Thus a person who is struck by lightning is probably "struck up" from the ground, before he is "struck down" from the sky!

6. The sun is about 93,000,000 miles away so the few miles between the bottom and top of a mountain make very little difference. Because the air is transparent, it absorbs relatively few of the heat rays from the sun as they pass through it. Thus, these rays reach the ground, where they are absorbed and cause warming. The warm ground in turn heats the atmosphere.

Warm air rises and, as it does so, it expands and cools, at an average rate of about 1.5 degrees with every thousand feet of altitude. As a result, the air is generally cooler at high altitudes than it is at the surface.

7. No one knows. The angle worm has a nervous system and it does react to stimulation. However, pain is a subjective matter. An individual person has certain reactions, which are called feelings or sensations, but he can never know whether other individuals have the same feelings. It is presumed that they do, since their nervous systems are alike and they behave in the same way in response to similar stimuli. This same assumption can hardly be extended to angle worms, which have a different nervous system, and no brain, as we know it.

8. According to one authority on vital statistics, Dr. Louis I. Dublin, the greatest age attained in modern times for which the records seem reliable is that of a Dane named Christen Jacobsen Drakenberg. He was born Nov. 18, 1626, and died Oct. 9, 1772, so he completed 146 years. In 1737, at the age of 111, he married a 60-year-old widow, who died a few years later.

9. Actually, there is no such thing as black lightning, though sometimes, on time exposure photographs made of a series of lightning flashes in the sky, some appear black instead of white.

10. This is a layer of the atmosphere where the temperature is around 75 degrees below zero. Its base varies with season and latitude, but is generally around 35,000 feet. The top of the stratosphere has not been determined exactly, but is probably about 100,000 feet, and this also may be variable.

SUPERBOY
The ADVENTURES of SUPERMAN WHEN HE WAS A BOY
EITHER A METEOR WILL DESTROY US OR WE'LL SUFFOCATE TO DEATH OUT HERE! WHY DOESN'T SUPERBOY SAVE US?
IF ONLY THEY KNEW... I CAN'T POSSIBLY SAVE THEM!
THIS IS THE TALE OF A PROBLEM THAT HAD SUPERBOY BAFFLED -- AND ALMOST BROUGHT DEATH TO HIS BEST FRIENDS! FOR THIS WAS ONE TIME THE BOY OF STEEL COULDN'T COME TO THE RESCUE, WHEN CERTAIN DOOM THREATENED THE PASSENGERS OF...
"The RUNAWAY ROCKET!"

AT THE SMALLVILLE PLANETARIUM, ONE MORNING, AN UNIQUE EVENT TAKES PLACE...
YES, FOLKS, BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT, WE HAVE ON EXHIBIT AN ACTUAL ROCKET WHICH WILL BE SHOT UP FROM HERE TODAY, IN AN ALTITUDE TEST FLIGHT!
KEEP MOVING, PLEASE! THERE WILL BE NO HUMAN CREW ABOARD... ONLY TEST MONKEYS, WHO WILL RETURN UNHARMED! AT 10 O'CLOCK, THE ROCKET GOES OFF!
AMONG THE THRILLED VISITORS IS A GROUP FROM SMALLVILLE HIGH SCHOOL, INCLUDING CLARK KENT AND LANA LANG...
JUST THINK, CLARK... IN AN HOUR, IT WILL ROCKET 250 MILES HIGH!
THAT'S WAY ABOVE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE, LANA--IN OPEN SPACE ITSELF!
AND IN A REMOTE-CONTROL SHACK NEARBY, THE ROCKET OPERATORS AWAIT ZERO HOUR NERVOUSLY...
I DON'T LIKE THOSE BLACK CLOUDS! MIGHT BE AN ELECTRICAL STORM BREWING!
YES... PERHAPS WE'D BETTER CLEAR THE PEOPLE FROM THE ROCKET NOW... JUST IN CASE!
MASTER SWITCH
BUT AT THAT MOMENT, THEIR WORST FEARS COME TRUE!
LIGHTNING! IT FIRED THE MASTER SWITCH!
AND THERE GOES THE ROCKET, AHEAD OF TIME!
VROOOOM
WITH A MIGHTY ROAR, THE SPACE SHIP HURTLES UPWARD...
THOSE KIDS! THEY'RE STILL ABOARD! THERE WAS NO WARNING!
2

AND INSIDE THE SPEEDING MISSILE, AS AUTOMATIC DEVICES CLAP SHUT THE HATCH...
TH-THE ROCKET WENT OFF!
TERRIFIC ACCELERATION... CRUSHING US TO THE FLOOR! ⇒GASP⇐
TAKEN BY SURPRISE, CLARK KENT FACES A SHARP DILEMMA...
IF I CHANGE TO SUPERBOY HERE, INSIDE THE SEALED ROCKET, THEY'LL ALL KNOW MY SECRET IDENTITY! YET I CAN'T LET THEIR LIVES BE ENDANGERED! GOT TO CHANGE NOW...
WAIT! THAT BOOKLET THEY HANDED OUT AT THE EXHIBIT... IT EXPLAINED HOW SAFE THIS NEW ROCKET IS!
ROCKET X-13 IS DESIGNED TO AUTOMATICALLY BRING BACK TEST ANIMALS ALIVE, AND LATER, A HUMAN CARGO!
THE ROCKET IS TIMED TO CIRCLE THE EARTH FOR ONE HOUR, THEN DESCEND WITH SAFETY DEVICES! SO THERE'S NO REAL DANGER IN OUR FINISHING THE RIDE! MY SECRET IS SAFE! ⇒WHEWWW⇐
ACCELERATION PRESSURE OVER, THANK HEAVEN!
MINUTES LATER, AS THE ROCKET, AT STUPENDOUS SPEED, REACHES ITS ORBITAL POSITION IN AIRLESS SPACE...
J-JEEPERS! LOOK AT THE EARTH, WAY B-BELOW!
250 MILES HIGH, SWINGING AROUND EARTH LIKE A TINY MOON! NOW THE GYROS ARE TURNING THE SHIP'S NOSE DOWN, SO THE ROCKETS WILL SHOOT US BACK TO EARTH, IN ONE HOUR!
3

BUT IN THE NEXT INSTANT, AN UNFORESEEN HAZARD...
WHAT--? THE SMALL METEOR... IT KNOCKED OFF SOMETHING NEAR THE ROCKET MOTOR, AND WE'VE STOPPED MOVING! WH-WHAT HAPPENED?

GREAT SCOTT! MY X-RAY VISION SHOWS WHAT HAPPENED! THAT DAMAGED DEVICE WAS THE FUSE THAT FIRED THE FUEL! NOW THE ROCKETS ARE DEAD, AND WE'RE STRANDED UP HERE IN THIS PERMANENT ORBIT!

NOW I'VE GOT TO CHANGE TO SUPERBOY BEFORE THEIR EYES, AND-- AND... HOLD IT! HOW CAN I GET OUTSIDE TO PUSH THIS SHIP DOWN? IN ONE INSTANT, USING ANY OPENING, ALL THE AIR WOULD RUSH OUT INTO THE SPACE VACCUUM, CHOKING THE OTHERS TO DEATH!

LET'S SEE... MAYBE I CAN SET OFF THOSE ROCKETS WITH THE HEAT OF MY X-RAY VISION! NO-- THE FIRING PINS ARE ENCASED IN LEAD, TO PROTECT THEM FROM COSMIC RAYS! GOT TO THINK OF SOME WAY!

BUT NO PLAN SEEMS POSSIBLE AND FINALLY, ONE LAST SHOCKING FACT FACES CLARK...
WHY DOESN'T SUPERBOY COME TO SAVE US?
SUPERBOY IS HERE, LANA-- BUT HE'S HELPLESS! THIS IS THE ONE JOB THAT HAS ME STYMIED!

HYSTERIA MEANWHILE GRIPS THE DOOMED YOUNGSTERS UNTIL LANA LANG'S VOICE RINGS OUT...
HELP! WE'LL SUFFOCATE! LET US OUT!
STOP IT, ALL OF YOU! WE'VE GOT TO FACE THIS WITH COURAGE!

SOME OF THE KIDS MAY CRACK UP UNDER THE STRAIN! WE NEED SOMETHING TO KEEP OUR MORALE UP, LIKE... OH, I KNOW! THIS WILL KEEP OUR MINDS OFF OUR TROUBLES.

LISTEN... SUPERBOY IS PROBABLY DELAYED--HE'LL SURELY BE HERE SOON! MEANWHILE, LET'S ALL TAKE TURNS TELLING EXCITING SUPERBOY STORIES! I'LL START! ONE OF SUPERBOY'S MOST FAMOUS FEATS OCCURRED--
"-- WHEN A TRESTLE BRIDGE BROKE DOWN, IN THE PATH OF A SPEEDING TRAIN, THREATENING A TERRIBLE WRECK..."
HELP! TRACK OUT AHEAD!
THE WHOLE STRUCTURE IS CRACKING UP! NO TIME FOR ME TO REPAIR IT ALL IN TIME!
CRACK
CRACK
CRACK
"SWIFTLY, SUPERBOY CONVERTED HIMSELF INTO A HUMAN TRACK!"
THE STEEL RAILS HELD FIRM EXCEPT FOR THIS ONE GAP, WHICH I'LL FILL, LETTING THE WHEELS ALL RUN OVER ME SMOOTHLY!
SO YOU SEE, THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT! SUPERBOY CAN DO ANYTHING--JUST ANY-THING!
ANYTHING? YET HERE I AM--HELPLESS! I STILL CAN'T GET OUTSIDE THE ROCKET WITHOUT KILLING MY FRIENDS!
BUT IF NOTHING ELSE, SUPERBOY AND HIS FORMER FEATS ARE HELPING TO DRIVE AWAY JITTERY DREAD AMONG THE GROUP MAROONED IN SPACE...
EXCITING GAME, ISN'T IT? YOUR TURN, BOB!
WELL... HOW ABOUT THE TIME SUPERBOY FOUGHT THAT MAD SCIENTIST'S GIANT WHEELED ROBOT?
"IT RAN WILD IN THE CITY, BUT SUPERBOY COULDN'T JUST SMASH IT..."
THE MAD SCIENTIST PLANTED A RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCE INSIDE! IF I SMASHED THE ROBOT, DEADLY RAYS WOULD SPREAD ALL OVER!
FURNITURE
5

TRYING TO STOP HIM WITH A PUSH, I MIGHT BURST THROUGH HIS THIN METAL SKIN AND LET THE RAYS OUT! THE SAFEST WAY IS TO FLATTEN THE WHEELS, BY APPLYING SOME SUPER-PRESSURE!
NOW I CAN GRAB IT UP AND FLY IT AWAY SAFELY!
"SQUARE WHEELS HALTED THE RUNAWAY ROBOT! SUPERBOY ALWAYS FINDS THE WAY TO END DANGER... ALWAYS!"
ALWAYS...EXCEPT THIS TIME, WHICH PROMISES TO BE MY FEAT OF FAILURE!
CLARK! YOU LOOK SCARED SICK! DON'T BREAK DOWN LIKE A WEAKLING! IT'LL BE YOUR TURN, AFTER ALICE!
LANA DOESN'T KNOW WHY I'M REALLY SCARED! MY LIFE ISN'T AT STAKE, BUT SUPERBOY'S HONOR IS! AND THE FRESH AIR IS RUNNING SHORT!
MY TURN NOW! I CHOKE HOPE I CAN F-FINISH!
"MY SUPERBOY STORY GOES BACK TO WHEN AN ICEBERG MENACED A SHIP LOST IN FOG..."
ICEBERG AHOY! TOO LATE TO TURN! WE'LL CRASH!
"WORST OF ALL, SUPERBOY HIMSELF WAS TIED UP IN ANOTHER RESCUE, MANY MILES OFF..."
BLUNDERING IN THE FOG, A SHIP SMASHED INTO THESE DOCKS AND SANK! GOT TO FISH UP ALL THE DROWNING MEN!

"TELESCOPIC VISION THEN SPOTTED THE SHIP IN DANGER FAR OFF, POSING A SUPER-PROBLEM..."

ICEBERG THERE! BUT HOW CAN I SAVE MORE MISSING MEN AND THAT SHIP AT THE SAME TIME?

"GRABBING A SHIP'S MEGAPHONE, HE EXERCISED SOME OF HIS SUPER-INGENUITY!"

MMM MMMM MMMMM MMM M

SOUNDS OF JUST THE RIGHT LOUDNESS AND PITCH ARE ABLE TO SHATTER CRYSTALLINE SUBSTANCES, LIKE GLASS! SO WHY NOT THE ICEBERG, TOO?

"ICE BEING CRYSTALLINE TOO, SUPERBOY HUMMED OUT IN HIS LOUDEST VOICE, FINALLY CREATING JUST THE RIGHT SUPERSONIC VIBRATIONS!"

MMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM

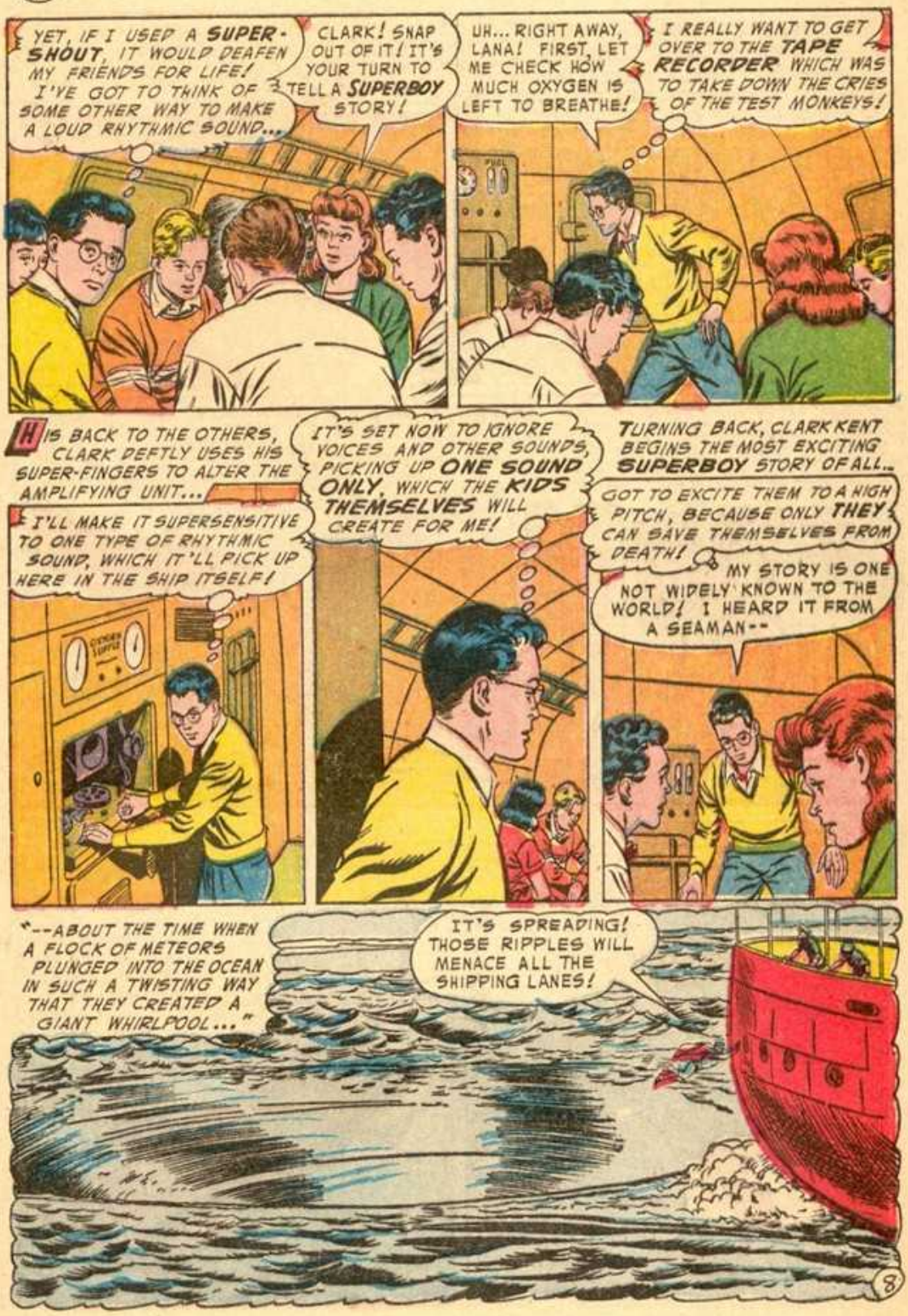
THAT STRANGE SOUND... IT SMASHED THE ICEBERG BEFORE WE TOUCHED IT!

MUST BE SUPERBOY'S WORK! WHEN IT COMES TO SAVING LIVES, THAT LAD IS NEVER STUMPED!

WELL, SUPERBOY IS SURE STUMPED NOW! IN TEN MINUTES, ALL THESE KIDS WILL START SUFFOCATING TO DEATH, AND I'LL BE POWERLESS TO HELP THEM!

BUT SUDDENLY, AS CLARK'S X-RAY VISION SCANS THE SHIP IN A LAST-DITCH SEARCH FOR A SOLUTION...

WAIT! THE ROCKET'S PROPELLANT IS CRYSTALLINE, TOO--LIKE THAT ICEBERG! THAT MEANS SUPERSONIC SOUND COULD SET IT OFF, IN PLACE OF THE WRECKED ROCKET FUSE!


YET, IF I USED A SUPER-SHOUT, IT WOULD DEAFEN MY FRIENDS FOR LIFE! I'VE GOT TO THINK OF SOME OTHER WAY TO MAKE A LOUD RHYTHMIC SOUND...
CLARK! SNAP OUT OF IT! IT'S YOUR TURN TO TELL A SUPERBOY STORY!
UH... RIGHT AWAY, LANA! FIRST, LET ME CHECK HOW MUCH OXYGEN IS LEFT TO BREATHE!
I REALLY WANT TO GET OVER TO THE TAPE RECORDER WHICH WAS TO TAKE DOWN THE CRIES OF THE TEST MONKEYS!
HIS BACK TO THE OTHERS, CLARK DEFTLY USES HIS SUPER-FINGERS TO ALTER THE AMPLIFYING UNIT...
I'LL MAKE IT SUPERSENSITIVE TO ONE TYPE OF RHYTHMIC SOUND, WHICH IT'LL PICK UP HERE IN THE SHIP ITSELF!
IT'S SET NOW TO IGNORE VOICES AND OTHER SOUNDS, PICKING UP ONE SOUND ONLY, WHICH THE KIDS THEMSELVES WILL CREATE FOR ME!
TURNING BACK, CLARK KENT BEGINS THE MOST EXCITING SUPERBOY STORY OF ALL...
GOT TO EXCITE THEM TO A HIGH PITCH, BECAUSE ONLY THEY CAN SAVE THEMSELVES FROM DEATH!
MY STORY IS ONE NOT WIDELY KNOWN TO THE WORLD! I HEARD IT FROM A SEAMAN--
"--ABOUT THE TIME WHEN A FLOCK OF METEORS PLUNGED INTO THE OCEAN IN SUCH A TWISTING WAY THAT THEY CREATED A GIANT WHIRLPOOL..."
IT'S SPREADING! THOSE RIPPLES WILL MENACE ALL THE SHIPPING LANES!

SUPERBOY PLUNGED IN AND TRIED TO HALT THE WHIRLING WATERS, BUT...
MY BODY'S TOO SMALL! EVEN AT SUPER-SPEED, IT WOULD TAKE ME TOO LONG TO BREAK UP THE FORCE OF BILLIONS OF GALLONS OF CHURNING WATER! I NEED A QUICKER METHOD!
GOSH! HOW DID SUPERBOY EVER STOP THE WHIRLPOOL?
AH... IN FEVERISH EXCITEMENT, THEIR HEARTS ARE NOW BEATING LOUDLY, CREATING THE KEY SOUND I WANTED!
PICKED UP BY THE AMPLIFIER, THAT RHYTHMIC HEARTBEAT IS VIBRATING THROUGH THE STEEL HULL -- OUT TO THE CRYSTALLINE ROCKET FUEL! IN A MOMENT, IT SHOULD SET OFF THE FUEL!
ABRUPTLY...
THE ROCKETS! WHY... SOMETHING SET THEM OFF!
WE'RE RETURNING TO EARTH, AFTER ALL! YAYYYYYYYYYYYY!
PLUNGING INTO EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE, AUTOMATIC SAFETY DEVICES GO INTO OPERATION.
THE LECTURER EXPLAINED BEFORE HOW THAT GIANT PARACHUTE WAS MADE OF NON-BURNING PLASTIC THREAD, AS STRONG AS STEEL! WE'RE SLOWING DOWN!
FINALLY, OVER A MEADOW...
WE LANDED WITH JUST A GENTLE BUMP!
PLOMP

SAFE! AND THIS IS ONE RESCUE SUPERBOY DIDN'T PERFORM!
LANA'S RIGHT! IT'S THE OTHER WAY AROUND... THE KIDS SAVED SUPERBOY! FIRST BY TELLING OF THE CLUE ABOUT SHATTERING SOUND -- SECOND, BY FURNISHING THE RHYTHMIC HEARTBEATS NEEDED!
ISN'T THIS FRESH AIR GRAND? BUT, CLARK -- WE DIDN'T HEAR THE ENDING OF YOUR STORY!
HUH? OH, THAT! WELL, SUPERBOY MADE A QUICK TRIP TO A STEEL FOUNDRY...
"...WHERE HE FORGED WHAT HE NEEDED HIMSELF!"
A GIANT SPOON! THANKS FOR THE HELP, MEN!
"SHORT MOMENTS LATER, BACK AT THE WHIRLPOOL..."
NOW TO REVERSE THE CURRENT, LIKE STIRRING A CUP OF TEA!
WELL, THAT ENDS OUR FAMOUS FEATS GAME! BUT FOR ONCE, AN EXCITING ADVENTURE AND DANGER HAPPENED TO US, WITHOUT SUPERBOY SHOWING UP AT ALL!
RIGHT AGAIN! LANA! THE ONLY TIME HE ACTUALLY SHOWED UP WAS IN THOSE STORIES!
WHAT'S MORE, LANA'S THE ONE WHO STARTED THOSE STORIES GOING -- SO SHE'S THE ONE WHO REALLY SAVED THOSE KIDS! AND SHE ALSO SAVED SUPERBOY FROM A PROBLEM THAT HE ALMOST COULDN'T SOLVE!
THE END